THE MINISTR OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Government is not opening a new Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology in Madhya Pradesh but is upgradig the existing Foodcraft Institute at Gwalior into a diploma level Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology with effect from the academic session 1992-93.

Complimentary facilities to I.T.D.C. Executives

2678. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific policy has been evolved by the I.T.D.C. for providing complimentary facilities to certain individuals through a selected executives of I.T.D.C.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the said policy has certain limitations while extending the facility to individuals, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the designations of such I.T.D.C. executives who have been empowered to extend complimentary facilities/services upto a particular limit during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(e) what are the details of authorities in the I.T.D.C. to check the misuse of the power for extending complimentary facilities?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) I.T.D.C., like other commercial organisations/hotel chains, has laid down the policy whereby the corporate executive Heads/Head of Divisions/Units are empowered to extend complimentary facilities in ITDC units/services to individuals outside the Corporation having business and official dealings with ITDC. The unit heads/senior executives of ITDC ensure that such facilities are not misused.

Upgradation of Bangalore Airport

2679. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government is representing for upgrading Bangalore Airport into a modern International Airport in view of Bangalore's locational advantages and the ever increasing growth in traffic;

(b) whether Central Government has set up a committee to go into this aspect and select a suitable site; and

(c) if so, what are the recommendations of this committee and what effective steps are being taken by the Central Government to modernise Bangalore Airport and what is the time-frame for completing the construction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The report of the Committee recommending a specific site has been received by the Government recently. Since the Government have to consider various techno-economic factors before taking a final view in the matter, no time-frame can be fixed at this stage.

Closure of I.A. booking office at Kanchenjunga in New Delhi

2680. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines booking office in Kanchenjunga Building at Barakhamba Road, New Delhi remains closed ever since a fire broke out the buiding on June 1st and has not been opened even after the clearance given for the building;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that a private airline that has its office close to the building has increased its sales

while in the absence of IA booking office the cash sales of IA booking offices in Delhi has come down since the closure of this booking office; and

(d) if so, whether Government would make an enquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines has two booking offices in close proximity to the Kanchenjunga Building and they are able to cope with the requirements of passengers in the area.

(c) and (d) Cash sales of each of the remaining Indian Airlines booking offices in Delhi were higher during June, 1992 compared to the sales during the previous two months.

Money required for renovation and modernisation of ITDC Hotels

2681. DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of money required by ITDC management for renovation, upgradation and modernisation of ITDC hotel properties giving the details thereof, unit/property wise and plan wise as on date;

(b) whether Government have thought of some other methods and wayout for getting the required money for renovation purposes etc. of ITDC hotels during 1991-92, before going for 'Joint Venture' with foreign companies/MNCs/Private Sector etc. if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are reasons for money being generated by multinational companies etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) ITDCs draft 8th Five Year Plan proposes an outlay of Rs. 30 crores for renovation/upgradation/modernisation of its hotel properties.

(b) Yes, Sir. ITDC drew loans from ancial Institutions for their Plan projects including renovation of hotels during 1991-92.

(c) The scheme formulated by the Government to form joint ventures with foreign hotel chains is aimed to upgrade and improve the hotels of ITDC.

Construction of an Airport at Madam in Meghalaya

2682. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Meghalaya Fedration has recently made a demand for the construction of an airport at Madam the site for which had already been identified;

(b) whether the Federation has also demanded the introduction of Indian Airlines flight to Shillong through the existing Umroi airport;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The request received from Meghalaya United Parliamentary Party for construction of an airport at Madam Umwang situated between Khasi and Jaintia Hills Districts of Maghalaya and Karbi Anglong District of Assam; and for introduction of Indian Airlines flights to Shillong through existing Umroi airport, has been examined. The financial constraint of National Airports Authority does not permit construction of a new airport at this site. It was also found difficult to operate a scheduled flight to Shillong considering the terrain around the airfield, poor visibility condition and heavy rains in most part of the year.